



THE GAZETTE

A PUBLICATION OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Happy New Year! Welcome to the new expanded online Gazette!

Take an adventure and discover your family history!

2013 is a Big Anniversary Year by Jean Morrison

The 40th Anniversary of the Hamilton County Genealogy Society is a big event for this chapter. Jeff reported briefly on the history of the chapter in his President's letter, and hinted that we have a number of celebratory events in the works. We thought you might like to hear about those ideas that are percolating now.

We want to do something for the repositories that are important to us in our research: the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, the Cincinnati History Library at the Museum Center, and the Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) library. Some Make a Difference Day projects (HCGS style) are being planned for the first two repositories, and we will support the OGS with a book drive of sorts – genealogical and history books that we no longer need or use – will be collected and delivered to the OGS in August, with a planned research day at the library in Bellville. Margie Mohr is responsible for this book project – so save any books you think you are ready to part with. There will be more news coming.

OGS has a number of awards for books, chapter activities and outstanding chapter, and also for individuals who do special things for their chapter or the OGS. The 40th Anniversary Committee, chaired by Kenny Burck and acting as the Awards Committee, has prepared and already submitted nominations for several of these awards for which we believe HCGS is worthy. The OGS luncheon on Saturday, April 27, will be the forum for presenting the awards, and we hope all those who can attend, will plan to be at the luncheon. Chapter members attending the OGS conference will have ribbons designating the chapter and our anniversary. Jean Nathan is coordinating this project, we hope everyone will pick one up and wear it proudly and prominently each day of the conference, and especially for the luncheon.

A "birthday party" social hospitality event is being planned for HCGS during the conference, on Friday, probably in the late

afternoon or evening at the Millennium Hotel. We'll have details as time draws closer. No reservations or registration is necessary for the chapter's party. Just come and celebrate with us.

During 2013, The Tracer and Gazette will celebrate and recognize the anniversary in ways the editors deem appropriate. A special year long 40th Anniversary blog will be posted on the website each Friday, titled the Fabulous Friday Blog. It will be informative, fun, and can be found at hcgsohio.blogspot.com (except during the summer months). Deb Cyprych, Jane Edgar and Liz Stratton are coordinating this project.

The Heritage Luncheon, Nov. 2, 2013, will be a special all members event, the last celebration of the year, with inductees to the FFHC, SBHC and FFHC being recognized as the 40th Anniversary class. Several exceptional speakers have been identified, one will be chosen soon, and the remaining plans are underway. The larger room at Clovernook Country Club has been reserved, and we hope you will put this on your calendar. Gail Burkholz, Heritage Groups Director, and John Tholking, FFHC chair, are leading this event.

NEWS FLASH - as this Gazette goes to the website, a new edition of the GUIDE, the 40th Anniversary Edition, the definitive resource for Cincinnati, Hamilton County and the area, is being prepared by the editors, Connie S. Christman and Kenny Burck. They have added new resources subjects and covered many new opportunities for research in and around Hamilton County. Everyone will want to have this new edition for their personal library. Look for it at the HCGS booth at the conference.

If there is anyplace you would like to jump in and help, please get in touch with any of the project chairmen or with Jeff Herbert or Kenny Burck. You can contact any of these people through the website, hcgsohio.org.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!

Library News from The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

BY Patricia Moseley Van Skaik, Manager,
GENEALOGY and Local History Department

Mobile Devices-Library in Your Pocket or Bag

If genealogists are any reflection of the general public, many family historians recently received as gifts or already owned e-readers or tablets. In fact, heading into the holidays, 1/3 of the adult population in the United States owned a Nook, Kindle, or tablet—a dramatic 200% increase over December 2011. More than 1/2 of the over-50 crowd engages in at least one form of social media. And, 90% of the adult population uses mobile phones with the number of smartphone owners growing daily. Previously, laptops enabled genealogists to carry their research with them without lugging around giant files and notebooks. Today, mobile devices make it possible to transport libraries as well.

The Public Library recognizes the latest information-gathering and communication trends and is using new technology to deliver services, including genealogy resources. Check the holdings of the Library's genealogy collection or recommend items for purchase through the Library's mobile app, selected by *Cincinnati Magazine* as the city's "Best Local App." As paper telephone directories disappear, utilize the Library's "Reference USA," accessed through the "Research & Homework" tab on the Library's homepage, www.cincinnati.org, for contact information of relatives. Watch for the Library to roll out new gateways later this year, making access to research databases even easier and more intuitive.

Ebooks are the Library's fastest growing circulation format. Thousands of ebooks are available free of charge. While most titles are fiction, the nonfiction options are expanding. There are a few genealogy books, including *Research Your Genealogy in America's Top Cities!* by Family Tree Magazine—a very handy travel resource. And yes, there is a section on Cincinnati. To download books for free, start with the "Virtual Library and Downloadables" section of the Library's homepage and then click on "ebooks." Like paper books, ebooks have a limited loan period and must be renewed to extend the loan. When ebooks are overdue, they simply disappear from the device. Feel free to call the Library at 369-6900 for assistance with any of the Library's electronic resources and setting up devices for ebooks.

Online Newspaper Resources

When searching for online local newspaper citations, genealogists have several options: the Hamilton County Genealogical Society's index to its publications, [http://](http://www.hcgsdata.org/)

www.hcgsdata.org/, Proquest Historical Newspapers: *The Cincinnati Enquirer* 1840-1922, and Newsdex, a Library generated index with comprehensive coverage of death notices, 1900-1908 and 1990-present. Access both Proquest and Newsdex through the Library's "Research & Homework" tab on the Library's website. Request free scans from historic newspapers by calling 369-6900 or through the Library's website. For those preferring to search and scan newspapers themselves, the Library's new state-of-the-art digital microfilm machines, located in the Genealogy and Local History Department, are ideal for searching, saving, scanning and sharing. Learn more about successful online newspaper research on January 26 at the Tech Program, "Find Your Ancestors Using Historical Newspapers," co-sponsored by the Chapter and the Library. See calendar for details.

February Genealogy Programs

In February, the Genealogy and Local History Department celebrates Black History Month with a series of programs entitled, *Pulling Ancestors from the Shadows*. All programs focus on research strategies applicable to a wide range of ethnicities. On February 9, Deborah Abbott, Ohio Genealogical Society Trustee and faculty member of the Institute of Genealogy & Historical Research at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, will present "Cluster Genealogy," co-sponsored by the Hamilton County Genealogical Society. Don't miss Dr. Abbott's engaging presentation and fascinating case studies.

The Genealogy and Local History Department looks forward to an exciting year as we continue to offer new services and resources for family historians.

Document and Preserve Your Family History By Karen Klaene

"The holidays are over and the hum-drum of winter has set in. Now is the time to work on completing one or more applications to the chapter's lineage groups. You know you have been thinking about it! Remember...*First Families* ancestors must have had residence in the county before December 31, 1820; *Settlers & Builders* ancestors must have resided between January 1, 1821 and December 31, 1860, and *Century Families* ancestors are those who were here from January 1, 1861 to one hundred years ago from today.

Committee members of these lineage groups are happy to help or advise you on your application. For *First Families* contact Karen Klaene (513) 922-3379 OR kklaene@fuse.net; for *Settlers & Builders* contact Kenny Burck at (513) 851-9549 OR kburck@juno.com; and for *Century Families* contact Bev Breitenstein at (513) 451-6081 OR bsbreitestein@hotmail.com. The application for the selected lineage group can be downloaded from the chapter website at <http://hcgsdata.org/>. Document and preserve your family's history in Hamilton County this year!"

President's Message

BY JEFF HERBERT

We're beginning 2013, our 40th year as a society, with renewed energy and excitement. There is so much in store for Hamilton County researchers, and in particular our members, that I know this will be the year that many of you break down your toughest brick walls.

Looking back, our chapter was formed in January 1973 when 12 interested individuals got together in a Wyoming neighborhood home. In the first months there were 24 paid members, and a balance of \$93.14 in the treasury. In the subsequent 40 years, we have grown to almost 1000 current members, published numerous indexes and guides to help researchers, have a strong education and program line-up, and an award winning news and research quarterly publication that is the envy of many other chapters. Our 40th anniversary planning committee has activities lined up for the entire year, so be sure to check the calendar in *The Gazette*, or on the chapter's website on a regular basis for all the details.

We will once again host the OGS annual convention from April 25th - 27th here in Cincinnati. The theme this year will be "Expanding your Ancestry Through Technology", with several tracks focused on using new technology to aid research, as well as tracts on German, Irish, African-American, DNA, and military research. The program and registration booklet is now available at www.ogs.org. If you attended the NGS convention last year, the location will be familiar to you, right next door at the Millennium Hotel in downtown Cincinnati. In addition, the chapter will have a booth in the exhibit hall, with our newest publications, so plan on stopping by to visit us, and be the first to view and buy our latest publications. Entrance to the exhibit hall is free, so even if you don't plan on attending the lectures, you are welcome to browse in the hall. We'll have volunteers from our Research Committee and from our Heritage Committee at our booth to help answer research questions and provide information on upcoming events. Plans are also being finalized to host a reception and birthday party on Friday afternoon at the convention. It is a good way to meet and greet fellow Hamilton County researchers and chapter members. It is sure to be three informative and exciting days, so be sure to mark your calendar.

In keeping with the technology theme, at the November chapter meeting our amended chapter bylaws were approved and we added an eighth director to the Board. Our Technology Director is Jenny Davis, who previously served as our Facebook and Twitter coordinator. Please welcome her as she coordinates activities related to technology improvements for the chapter, and look for enhancements to our website as well as new technology tips to facilitate your research.

In conjunction with technology improvements, just a reminder that our newsletter, *The Gazette*, will now only be available via our website at www.hcgsOhio.org. *The Gazette* is now on the open portion of the website, and back issues to 2008 are also available for anyone to view. This change will allow for more news content and also better help us control costs.

Final details are being made for several Make-A-Difference Day (MADD) volunteer projects. When completed, these will help future researchers find more information on Hamilton County ancestors. Please watch for upcoming details and plan to participate.

The Chapter does provide a paid researchers list to members and non-members alike who are researching in Hamilton County and cannot make a personal trip to the area. Previous paid researchers have been contacted to be added to the 2013 list, but if you have an interest in being a paid researcher, please contact the Chapter on our website for additional details.

Our regular board meetings occur on the 3rd Thursday of each month, and all members are welcome to attend as always. Ask any board member for more information on the meeting locations and times.

OGS CONFERENCE IN CINCINNATI IN 2013

By Kenny Burck

Remember the 2013 Ohio Genealogical Society Annual Conference will be in Cincinnati April 25-27 at the Millennium Hotel downtown. If you are an OGS member you received the conference brochure in the most recent issue of *Ohio Genealogy News*. Otherwise you can get all the information and register at the OGS website at www.ogs.org. As this is our 40th Anniversary of the Hamilton County Chapter of OGS we are planning many special activities throughout the year. At the Conference on the Friday night (April 26) after the last session of the day we will have a free 40th anniversary reception for members only on the 4th floor of the hotel (watch for the directional signs). You may attend if you are attending the conference **OR** any member can attend and "Come on Down" to join us for refreshments and networking or just to see old and/or make new genealogical friends. (Remember you can see all the exhibitors in the vendor hall even if you do not pay to come to the conference and could then attend the reception.)

If you are an out-of-town member we hope you can attend the conference as there will be opportunities to meet many local members who can answer questions about your local research. The main downtown library will be open extra hours on Thursday night and you will have the chance to visit other research facilities, cemeteries, etc. There are two whole days of German tracks, one whole day of an Irish track and many local and regional topics will be resented. If you have any questions about the conference, please email of phone Kenny Burck at kburck@juno.com or 513-851-9549.

I'M GOING TO AMERICA, MY FORTUNE FOR TO TRY

By Linda Dietrich

*So, adieu, my dear father, adieu, my dear mother,
Farewell to my sister, farewell to my brother;
I'm going to America, my fortune for to try.*

[The Streams of Bunclody, Anonymous]

From the Act of Union on 1 January 1801 until 6 December 1922, the island of Ireland was part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. During the Great Famine, from 1845 to 1849, the island's population of over 8 million fell by 30%. One million Irish died of starvation and/or disease and another 1.5 million emigrated, particularly to the United States. This set the pattern of emigration for the century to come.

The Plantation of Ulster in Northern Ireland resulted from the organized colonization (or plantation) of Ulster by people from Great Britain, especially by Presbyterians from Scotland. Private colonization by wealthy landowners began in 1606, while the official plantation controlled by King James I of England (who was also King James VI of Scots) began in 1609. All land owned by Irish chieftains, the Ó Neills and Ó Donnells along with those of their supporters, who fought against the English Crown in the Nine Years War, were confiscated and used to settle the newly arrived colonists. Considerable numbers of Ulster-Scots emigrated to the North American colonies throughout the 18th century, 160,000 settled in what would become the United States between 1717 and 1770 alone.

When these citizens of Southern Ireland and from Ulster emigrated to North America, they often disdained, or were forced out of, the heavily English regions on the Atlantic coast. Most groups of Ulster-Scots settlers crossed into the "western mountains," where their descendants populated the Appalachian regions and the Ohio Valley. Here they lived on the frontiers of America, carving their own world out of the wilderness. The Scotch-Irish soon became the dominant culture of the Appalachians from Pennsylvania to Georgia, many settling in Cincinnati and have helped to shape our region for more than 300 years.

Dave Schroeder, MSLS, will explore the conditions that drove many Irish from their homeland and what their lives were like in mid-century America, for the Hamilton County Genealogy Society's Irish-focus program on March 9, 2013. Mr. Schroeder, a nationally known speaker on Irish Research, is the director of the Kenton County Kentucky Library and is president of the Friends of the Kentucky Public Archives Association.

Following Mr. Schroeder's presentation, a member of the HCGS Irish Special Interest Group will present a program focusing on important web sites for genealogists who are searching for their

Irish roots.

The program will take place at 1:30 pm on Saturday, March 9, 2013, in the third floor Huenefeld Tower Room at the Main Library at 800 Vine St., Cincinnati, OH. Anyone interested in genealogy research, especially for Irish ancestors, is invited to attend this free event. For further information about this or any program of the HCGS, contact Program Director, Linda Dietrich at lindabelle@lcs.net.

Website - Home Page & Site Search

By Jim Dempsey

If you haven't visited our website lately (www.hcgsohio.org), there have been changes on the home page. *The Gazettes* since January, 2008 have been moved from the *MEMBERS ONLY* page to their own page accessible from the *PUBLICATIONS* block. They are accessible to everyone as an downloadable e-zine. This will enable us to save printing and bulk mail costs and enlarge *The Gazette* to increase the times per year we can deliver even *more* content to members and visitors.

The social media sites, Facebook and Twitter, along with our fantastic BLOG, now has prominent access points. Thanks to Jenny Davis for these home page improvements.

We have emphasized the significant death notice and marriage database collections.

Sometime in January, we will feature access to our 40,000 name Surnames in *The Tracer* indexes along with new online Queries.

Last but not least, is the most significant addition in years, Google Site Search capability from our home page. While all the content on our website has always been available to a global Google search, results were mixed in with 'hits' all over the world. If you are interested in matches of *only* your *Hamilton County* ancestors in one search, use the home page search field.

Your search is *limited* to matches *only* on our WebPages without any need for additional filtering criteria.

Tracer Article Index 2008-2012

By Jim Dempsey

In December 2008, the first *Tracer* Article Index, covering the years 1979 through 2008 was published. At the same time, the *Gazette* and *Tracer* publishing technology was upgraded to allow creation of an Adobe Acrobat file. These PDF *Gazettes* and *Tracers* became the first content available on the then new Members Only page.

Since then, the award winning *Tracer* has published exceptional instructional content, large lists of ancestral names, highlighted the rapid expansion of internet sites relevant to Hamilton County and resources being co-developed with local repositories. The wealth of this information demands that our members have fast and online access to recent *Tracer* content.

As you read this, a new *Tracer* Article Index for 2008 through December 2012 has been put on our website, both from the Research Aids page and the Members Only page. The format is similar to that of the original index with 2 additions. One is that the articles are characterized so that the reader can know before they look, that the articles contain either a list of possible ancestral names or explanation on how-to-do research on a particular topic or where to access an online database among others. In addition, if the article is primarily about a website, that website address is included in the Index. Thanks to Jenny Davis for extracting titles from all the issues.

Say you are working on your family at home and you vaguely recall that there was an article on naturalization records in the last few years, but where was it? And even if you went to look, your *Tracers* are in different places. So you decide not to bother to look since Murphy's Law tells you that in all the *Tracers* you do find, naturalization info is not in them! You then may think "I can look through the *Tracers* in the Members Only area". But you would need to download each of them one at a time hunting for the one with naturalizations in it. So you give up.

Or say you are in a library looking through passenger lists and thought "I wish I had the *Tracer* naturalization articles with me".

Well, now you have the article index that you can print and put in your library research folder. Also, whether you are at home, or anywhere in the world, you can log into the Members Only page, look at the index and then look at the article you need.

But wait, there is more! Beginning in January, we will create the H.C.G.S. **Virtual Library** which will have the Article Index as web pages with active links to the articles you need, saving one step. This capability will only be available to members on the Members Only page. The time it would take to extract and format articles as single files would be prohibitive, so the links will be to the entire *Tracer* which can be implemented quickly.

We are planning to update the index on a regular basis. Hopefully the new index will be an asset to your research. If you find mistakes or have suggestions, feel free to contact me at jgnl-dempsey@att.net

New Probate Court Project - Volunteers Needed

By Jim Dempsey

In the December 2012 *Tracer*, there is an article (p.111) announcing 41 volumes (detailed list on p.116) of Hamilton County Probate Court Journals, 1858-1890, now online at the FamilySearch.org website. They are not easy to find at FamilySearch, so follow these instructions:

1. Go to www.familysearch.org and click on United States at the bottom left of the page.
2. In the left pane, scroll down to click on Ohio.
3. A list of 19 collections of Ohio records appears.
4. Scroll down to Ohio Probate Records, 1790-1996, then click on [Browse Images](#) to see a list of counties.
5. Clicking on [Hamilton](#) brings up a list of record types and dates which you can browse, go down to Journals to find the volumes
6. To see an example of the index pages, click on [Journals 1858-1860 vol 12](#), then enter 238 in image box and press enter to see the letter "Z"

Last month I started a new index copying project like the ones completed last year for probate accounts and inventories. Eight of the previous volunteers (Thank you!) are already working on volumes 12 through 36. There are 33 more to be copied. These are a little more involved than the account books and can have as many as 1400 names in each volume. Follow the instructions above to see a typical index page.

I will supply you with detailed instructions, and an Excel spreadsheet to fill in with the name(s), status of person, entry type and page number. Please "adopt" a volume! For more information, call me at 513-793-7313 or send an email to jgnl-dempsey@att.net

THE GAZETTE

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**January-April 2013
Program Calendar**

Saturday January 26, 2013 10:00 am—12:45 pm	<i>PLCH and HCGS tech programs "Find Your Ancestors Using Historical Newspaper Databases"</i>	<i>Pat Van Skaik, Steve Headley, Kathy Reed</i>	Huenefeld Tower Room, Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday February 2, 2013 2:00 pm.	<i>How To Pick Apart A Death Notice and Obituary</i>	<i>Thomas D. Jordan</i>	3rd Fl. Genealogy Program Space Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday February 9, 2013 <u>A Seminar in 2 Sessions:</u>	<i>African American Research, from Slavery to Freedom - 11:00 am</i> <i>Cluster Genealogy; Finding Your Lost Ancestor - 2:00 pm</i> <i>Co-sponsored by the Library and HCGS</i>	<i>Deborah A. Abbott</i>	3rd Fl. Genealogy Program Space Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday February 23, 2013 2:00 pm	<i>Searching for Descendants of African American Civil War Soldiers; Giving a Narrative to Cincinnati's Forgotten Heroes</i>	<i>A Panel Discussion</i>	3rd Fl. Genealogy Program Space Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday March 2, 2013 10:00 am	<i>Genealogy Database Basics</i>		Computer Lab, 3rd Floor Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday March 9, 2013 1:30	<i>Irish Immigration</i>	<i>Dave Schroeder,</i>	Huenefeld Tower Room, 3rd Floor Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday, April 6, 2013 10:00 am	<i>Tour and Orientation to the Genealogy and Local History Department</i>		Meet at department desk Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Thursday-Saturday April 25-27, 2013	<i>Ohio Genealogical Society Annual Conference (OGC). Expanding Your Ancestry through Technology.</i> <i>Check www.ogs.org for information and times.</i>		Millennium Hotel 150 West 5th Street Cincinnati, Ohio

Please see our complete calendar listing at <http://hcgsohio.org>.

Also follow us on **Facebook** (<http://www.facebook.com/HCGSOhio>) and **Blogger** (<http://hcgsohio.blogspot.com>)

Gazette Deadline: March 27, 2013

Tracer Deadline: January 27, 2013